ready mentioned. After that we will see whether our position on this is correct. Then whatever action is.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: His question is very simple. He wants to know whether they have put any factories for processing potatoes, fruits and vegetables in Punjab.

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: The condition was that first they will process fruits and vegetables and then they will produce soft drink concentrate. That was the condition of the letter of intent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But they have put in the processing plants?

SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: No.

श्री गिरिधर गोमांगो : मेरा इंटेन्शन तो वही था, लेकिन तीन प्लांट में जो प्रोडक्शन होना था.... (व्यवधान)

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have found the sense of the House that you will take drastic action. quick action, to see that they fulfil it or they quit.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: We are examining...

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: He is not even responding to your suggestion—House. He is not even responding.

SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Either they must fulfil their commitments or they should get out of India. They must get out of India.

SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: I am responding. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

Prices of essential commodities and raids against hoarders and black marketeers

*64. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA:†
DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY:
Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the period preceding the presentation of the Annual Budget this year, prices of all the essential commodities have soared high;

(b) the details of prices of the essential commodities including edible oil prevailing in April, 1991 and at present;

(c) whether Government have launched any drive/raids to detect hoarding and black marketing of essential commodities including edible oils in various parts of the country; and

(d) if so, the number of raids conducted persons arrested therein and the quantum of commodities seized in those raids?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) A statement showing the wholesale price index numbers in respect of selected essential commodities for the period before and immediately after the presentation of the Budget including the variation in the wholesale price index as on 20-7-1991 and 29-6-1991 and also the variation as on 27-7-1991 over 20-7-1991 is given at Annexure I. (*See* below)

(b) A statement showing the wholesale price index numbers as on

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri S. S. Ahluwalia.

27-4-1991 and 10-8-1991 (latest available wholesale price index) alongwith the variation as on 10-8-1991 and 24-7-1991 is given in Annexure II (*See* below)

(c) and (d) The Essential Commodities Act, 1955 provides for regulating production, supply, distribution and trade and commerce of 66 classes of commodities which have been declared as essential under the Act. The Government have been emphasising the need for vigorous enforcement of Essential Commodities Act and also initiating action against anti-social elements among the traders indulging in speculative trade practices, black-marketing, hoarding and other similar malpractices. A statement showing the action taken under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 upto 31.7.1991 against major offenders, number of raids made, number of persons arrested, number of persons prosecuted, number of persons convicted and value of goods confiscated is given in Annexure III. (*See* below)

Annexure-I

	Wholesale Price/Index			Percentage Variation	
	29-6-91	20-7-91	27-7-91	(pre budget) 20-7-91 / 29-6-91	(post budget) 27-7-91 / 20-7-91
1	2	3	4	5	6
Rice	196·3	198·9	200·9	+1·3	+1·0
Wheat	173·4	175·3	177·3	+1·1	+1·1
Jowar	163·8	167·2	168·3	+2·7	−0·4
Bajra	178·5	187·6	187·2	+5·0	−0·2
Gram	194·6	196·5	196·0	+0·9	−0·2
Arhar	299·1	299·5	301·2	+0·1	+0·6
Moong	219·5	216·8	217·7	−1·2	+0·4
Masur	221·6	233·8	231·6	+5·5	−0·9
Urad	296·2	308·2	309·3	+4·0	+0·3
Potatoes	299·3	299·4	305·0	Steady	+1·9
Onions	176·1	206·3	215·8	+17·1	+4·6
Milk	233·2	235·3	236·0	+0·9	+0·3
Fish	254·7	244·7	235·1	−3·9	−3·9
Mutton	243·4	243·4	243·4	Steady	Steady
Chillies (dry)	218·7	247·9	260·7	+13·3	+5·2
Tea	241·1	276·8	288·9	+14·8	+4·4
Coke	162·2	162·2	162·2	Steady	Steady

1	2	3	4	5	6
Kerosene	161·4	161·4	145·7	Steady	—10·0
Atta	209·5	209·5	209·5	Steady	Steady
Sugar	148·5	148·3	162·3	—0·1	+9·4
Gur	179·5	179·9	178·6	+0·2	—0·7
Salt	183·9	190·4	189·7	+3·5	—0·4
Vanaspati	269·4	271·4	273·1	+0·7	+0·6
Mustard Oil	210·9	224·0	225·1	+6·2	+0·5
Coconut oil	271·7	269·7	268·1	—0·7	—0·6
Groundnut Oil	259·2	266·3	268·2	+2·7	+0·7
Cotton Cloth (Mills)	175·8	179·2	179·2	+1·9	Steady
laundry Soap	159·6	167·9	167·9	+5·2	Steady
Safety Matches	134·4	134·4	134·4	Steady	Steady
All Commodities	196·4	198·8	201·9	+1·2	+1·6

Annexure-II

1	Wholesale Price Index		%variation
	27-4-91	10-8-91	10-8-91 over 27-4-91
	2	3	4
Rice	189·4	206·0	+8·8
Wheat	177·4	184·6	+4·0
Jowar	153·9	178·0	+15·7
Bajra	180·3	179·7	—0·3
Gram	192·1	196·7	+2·4
Arhar	263·5	308·3	+17·0
Moong	216·8	219·8	+1·4
Masur	214·0	239·8	+12·1
Urad	286·2	314·2	+9·8
Potatoes	220·3	314·4	+42·7
Onions	191·1	232·2	+21·5
Milk	226·0	235·0	+4·0

1	2	3	4
Fish	183·5	204·9	+11·7
Mutton	241·7	239·1	—1·1
Chillies (dry)	189·0	272·3	+44·0
Tea	263·3	304·0	+15·5
Coke	162·2	162·2	Steady
Kerosene	161·4	145·5	−9·7
Atta	209·9	209·5	−0·2
Sugar	143·3	161·9	+13·0
Gur	157·6	183·9	+16·7
Salt	180·1	189·7	+5·3
Vanaspati	263·6	273·1	+3·6
Mustard Oil	204·7	241·0	+17·7
Coconut Oil	258·0	272·9	+5·8
Groundnut Oil	252·4	274·0	+8·6
Cotton Cloth (Mills)	167·7	179·9	+7·3
Laundry Soap	157·9	169·7	+7·5
Safety Matches	134·4	134·4	Steady
All Commodities	192·7	204·9	+6·3

Annexure-III

S.No.	State/UT	No. of raids made	No. of persons arrested	No. of persons prosecuted	No. of persons convicted	Value of goods confiscated (Rs. in lakh)	Reported upto
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Andhra Pradesh	5610	600	10	5	113·03	June
2	Assam	1563	..	20	3	..	June
3	Arunachal Pradesh	18	..	..	..	..	June
4	Bihar	95	34	54	..	96·64	April
5	Gujarat	3325	17	51	3	137·01	June
6	Goa	22	..	..	..	..	January
7	Haryana	109	81	22	..	0·09	May

1		2	3	4	5	6	7
8	Himachal Pradesh	13806	..	..	..	..	May
9	Jammu & Kashmir	64	80	16	..	..	March
10	Karnataka	2358	387	46	1	3·78	June
11	Kerala	4014	..	1	..	1·45	April
12	Madhya Pradesh	2074	58	109	3	21·38	May
13	Maharashtra	9416	459	322	26	95·64	May
14	Manipur	..	4	..	..	..	June
15	Meghalaya	274	..	..	..	..	June
16	Mizoram	175	5	..	..	0·53	June
17	Nagaland	..	..	Nil	..	..	April
18	Orissa	1764	10	53	..	30·05	March
19	Punjab	14930	16	30	..	6·24	June
20	Rajasthan	639	7	124	25	15·01	June
21	Sikkim	5	5	..	..	..	June
22	Tamil Nadu	5197	157	1097	60	69·88	June
23	Tripura	109	6	5	..	0·02	May
24	Uttar Pradesh	12628	504	817	..	694·96	June
25	West Bengal	1237	570	310	..	144·66	May
26	A & N Islands	3406	1	56	..	..	June
27	Chandigarh	24	..	..	..	..	June
28	D & N Haveli	2	1	..	..	14·36	June
29	Delhi	1197	103	72	4	1·43	June
30	Daman & Diu	36	..	..	..	..	June
31	Lakshadweep	..	..	Nil	..		June
32	Pondicherry	323	47	11	11	0·1	June
	TOTAL	84420	3152	3226	141	1446·26	

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : महोदय, दो मिनट में मैं कुछ कहना चाहती थी। आपने जो कहा ... **(व्यवधान)** ...

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया : अरे भई, महंगाई पर बोल लो।

श्री सभापति : यह बड़ा इम्पोरटेंट सवाल है 64 नम्बर का, आप क्या कर रही हैं ?

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : मैं यह कहना चाहती थी, सभापति जी, कि जो आपने यह कहा कि ....

श्री सभापति : होर्डर्स और ब्लैक मार्किटियर्स के खिलाफ सवाल है, उसको चलने दीजिए।

श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : जो आपने पंजाब की बात कही कि ... **(व्यवधान)** .....

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया : यह महंगाई की बात नहीं सुनना चाहते हैं।

श्री सभापति : अब हम 64 नम्बर सवाल पर आ गए हैं जो होर्डर्स और ब्लैक मार्किटियर्स के बारे में है, उसको भी थोड़ा सा हो जाने दीजिए।

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने बहुत लम्बा-चौड़ा स्टेटमेंट दिया है, पर आश्चर्य की बात है कि जो भी होलसेल प्राइस इन्डेक्स इन्होंने सदन के पटल पर रखे हैं, मुझे तो नहीं महसूस होता कि कोई भी ऐसी चीज बाजार में इस रेट पर मिलती हो। होलसेल और कंजूमर के लिए ट्रेडिंग के लिए जो सेलस ओपनिंग हैं वहां जो रेट्स हैं, ईवन एम० आर० शापस पर चीजें इससे मंहगी मिलती हैं। मेरे को मंत्री महोदय कृपा करके बता दें कि होलसेल प्राइस इन्डेक्स के हिसाब से 275 रुपए प्रति क्विंटल यह ग्राउंडनट आयल को दिखाते हैं या पोटेटो को 314 दिखाते हैं और बाजार में 15 रुपए किलो उड़द की दाल मिलती है, अरहर की दाल 16 रुपए किलो मिलता है, आलू 6 से 8 रुपए किलो मिलता है, तो यह जो प्राइस इन्डेक्स रख रहे हैं, यह किस हिसाब से रख रहे हैं और किस हिसाब से यह दाम देंगे ? ..... **(व्यवधान)** .....

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Let the Prime Minister intervene. (*Interruptions*).

श्री एन०के०पी० साल्वे : यह बेचारे क्या जवाब दे पाएंगे इस बात का, यह तो फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर से आप पुछवाइएगा। .... **(व्यवधान)** .....

श्री सभापति : मैं थोड़ा पूछना चाहता हूं कोई सवाल, सवाल आप लोग पूछना चाहते हैं।

श्री एन०के०पी० साल्वे : मेरी दरख्वास्त यह है कि बुनियादी .... **(व्यवधान)** ..

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Let the Prime Minister say, what they are doing. (*Interruptions*).

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया : इस पर हाफ-एन-आवर डिस्कशन हो।

श्री सभापति : अभी सवाल चलने दो, फिर उसके बाद कहो। हाफ-एन-आवर का दूसरा तरीका है।

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Sir, let the Prime Minister say what they are doing on the price front. (*Interruptions*).

श्री एन०के०पी० साल्वे : चेयरमैन साहब, सवाल बजट के .. **(व्यवधान)** सर, मेरी दरख्वास्त है ... **(व्यवधान)**

Sir, the question itself states whether it is a fact that during the period preceding the presentation of the Annual Budget this year, prices of all the essential commodities have

soared high. It relates to the Budget and it is for the Finance Minister to ...(*Interruptions*).

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलुवालिया : मंत्री महोदय जरा जवाब तो दें इस बात का कि क्या मेकेनिज्म एडाप्ट किया है इन्होंने प्राइस कंट्रोल करने के लिए ?

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Let the Prime Miinster respond. It is a unanimous view of the House. Let the Prime Minister say something. Let the Prime Minister say what is happening. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: We want full day discussion on this. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, let the Prime Minister say something...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Because the Prime Minister is not responding on the issue of price rise, in protest, we walk out...(*Interruptions*).

SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: The Prime Minister is not even prepared to intervene and say something. We walk out. (*Interruptions*)

(*At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over. I am allowing a calling attention on this subject...

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: When, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Foreign technology agreements

*65. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL. Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a follow-up to the liberalised Industrial Policy Government have decided to accord automatic approval of foreign technology agreements in respect of certain industries;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether this approval has been accorded to industries of synthetics, diamonds, welding electrodes, food processing etc; if not, the reasons therfor and by when a decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. K. THUNGON): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) According to the Statement on Industrial Policy tabled in both the Houses of Parliament on July 24, 1991, and the Press Note No. 10 (1991 Series) dated August 14, 1991, issued in pursuance thereof by the Ministry of Industry (Department of Industrial Development), the facility of automatic permission for foreign technology agreements is available, subject to the following criteria:—

(a) Automatic permision will be given for foreign technology agreements in high priority industries (Annexure III to the Statement on Industrial Policy) upto a lumpsum payment of Rs. 1 crore, 5 per cent royalty for domestic sales and 8 percent for exports, subject to total payments of 8 per cent of sales over a 10 year period from date of agreement or 7 years from commencement of production.